CLAIMS

1.   A method for dynamically generating a distributed knowledge base within a computer system that is integrated with existing data, comprising:

receiving indications of data elements from the existing data and storing references to the indicated data elements;

using the stored references to the indicated data elements of existing data to register a plurality of users and experts;

receiving a request from one of the registered users to submit a question;

determining an expert to answer the question from the registered experts;

forwarding the question to the determined expert;

receiving an indication of an answer from the determined expert; and

storing the indicated answer with the submitted question so that users other than the user from whom the request was received can access the question and indicated answer.